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110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2827

To amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a floor of 1.0 for the practice expense and for the work expense geographic practice cost indices (GPCI) under the Medicare Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2007

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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A BILL

To amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a floor of 1.0 for the practice expense and for the work expense geographic practice cost indices (GPCI) under the Medicare Program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Equity and Accessibility Act of 2007".

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SEC. 2. MEDICARE GPCI FLOORS.

(a) FLOOR OF 1.0 FOR PRACTICE EXPENSES.—Section 1848(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(e)(1)) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

"(F) FLOOR AT 1.0 FOR PRACTICE EXPENSE INDEX.—After calculating the practice expense index in subparagraph (A)(ii), for purposes of payment for services furnished on or after January 1, 2008, the Secretary shall increase the practice expense geographic index to 1.00 for any locality for which such practice expense geographic index is less than 1.00.".

(b) EXTENSION OF FLOOR OF 1.0 FOR WORK EXPENSES.—Subparagraph (E) of such section is amended by striking "and before January 1, 2008,".

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